Mani, K. T. Mathew, K. Mohamed Seethi, C. A. Ouseph, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan and A. Sankara Menon were absent.

Congratulatory Statement.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Sir, I request your indulgence to make a statement.

President.—Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—On behalf of the non-official members of this Council, I have very great pleasure in felicitating and congratulating you on the high honour that His Highness the Maharaja and the Government have been pleased to confer upon you (*Hear, hear*) upon you a non-official member and also upon another non-official member of this Council. I regret very much the unavoidable absence of the Diwan, the officiating Diwan and the Deputy President in the deliberations of this momentous session. But we rejoice that a suggestion regarding the formation of a panel of chairmen, made by some of the non-official members during this Budget Session, came to be presently accepted; and in this reform, so readily ushered in, we see the hand of Providence, guiding the destinies of this august Council, and pointing out in unmistakable terms, our fitness for further constitutional reform. We assure you of our hearty co-operation and we feel confident that in the conduct of the proceedings of this Council you will scrupulously maintain the dignity of the House and safeguard its privileges and discharge your onerous duties with cold-blooded impartiality. We wish you every success. (*Hear, hear*).

President.—Hon'ble Members of the Cochin Legislative Council, by the gracious kindness of His Highness our beloved Maharaja I have been elevated to this position and I trust, with the co-operation of the Members of this Council, I shall be able to justify the selection that has been made (*Hear, hear*). Earnestly appealing to both sides of the House for their unstinted support in the discharge of my duty, I wish to enter upon the business of the day. First item, questions and answers.

Questions and Answers.

Transport of timber by the Anamalais Timber Trust.

301. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the quantity of timber transported by the Anamalais Timber Trust during their 1st year's contract according to the terms of the agreement;

(2) and the transport charges paid by them;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(3) the total transport charges due from them according to the agreement;

(4) and the period of the agreement?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—

(1) Teak and Rosewood .. Cds. 4925
Junglewood .. ,, 349
Teak scantlings .. ,, 79

(2) Rs. 65,149.

(3) Rs. 73,020.

(4) One year from 30th Chingam 1107.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is there not a stipulation made in the agreement as to the quantity of timber to be transported by the Trust?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How much is it?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Seven thousand candies.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— Have the Government taken any action for not removing that timber?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—They have made certain representations to the Government with regard to the amount levied according to the strict terms of the agreement and they are under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Have they given any security to the Government for the amount due to the Government?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the security?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Rs. 10,000.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is any interest charged on the balance due?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—According to the terms of the agreement they are liable to pay interest on any balance amount due.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the rate of interest?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Five per cent.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the interest generally charged on the balances due to the Forest Department?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—There is no fixed rate. It is according to the terms of the agreement.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is there any other contractor to whom this 5 per cent interest is allowed?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—I want notice.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.— Have the Government stopped selling timber to any other agency after the contract with these people?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—I do not follow the question. There is no other agency.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Do you pay any rate of interest on the money deposited with you?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—No.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is any interest charged on the security paid by the contractor?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—No.

Tramway—transport charges for timber.

302. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the capacity of a Tramway bogie;

(2) what is the transport charge for a candy of 12 19/27 cft. of first class timber;

(3) and what is the charge for a 5 ton bogie of scantlings of the same sort of timber?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—(1) 5 tons or 250 cft.

(2) Re. 0—3—6 per candy a mile. Logs of 35' and above will be charged double the above rate.

(3) For a 5 ton bogie of scantlings no rate has been fixed specifically; but for spokes and felloes and poravats the rates for a 5 ton bogie are:—

	Rs.
Section I ..	8
Section II ..	12
Section III ..	16

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the transport charge for a candy of timber from Parambikulam to Chalakkudi?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—I do not know whether the Member means from the terminus to Chalakkudi.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Timber transported by this Trust from Parambikulam to Chalakkudi.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—It comes to 10 and odd rupees per candy for first class timber and for jungle-wood 7 and odd.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the charge for a bogie of scantlings?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—As is stated here, there is no specific charge.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly